

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Extension
Service

Program Aid
Number 1373

USDA Services for Rural Handicapped Persons





Foreword

This publication "USDA Services for Rural Handicapped Persons" is an excellent example of the strong linkages of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and its agencies with other government departments and agencies and the private sector—all working together to provide information and services to the people of America.

In February of 1983, Secretary of Agriculture John Block and Harold Russell, Chairman, President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to further the rehabilitation and placement of handicapped persons living in rural areas. The Memorandum of Understanding and subsequent joint efforts focus on two vital areas:

1. Identifying educational resources, training programs, accessible housing, in-home work programs, counseling and placement services, and informing handicapped persons of their availability.
2. Encouraging USDA agencies to work with Governors' Committees and local committees on Employment of the Handicapped and individual living centers in statewide information and educational programs.

Extension Service was identified in the Memorandum of Understanding as lead agency for the Rural Handicapped Program, and a USDA-wide committee was appointed under the Secretary's Policy and Coordination Council. This publication and a new USDA logo for the program will assist Department field staff across the country in making USDA services and programs more readily available and accessible to the rural handicapped. They are excellent steps in the continuing important work and function of the USDA Rural Handicapped Committee.

ORVILLE G. BENTLEY

Assistant Secretary for Science and Education

MARY NELL GREENWOOD

Administrator, Extension Service



Contents

	Page
Introduction	1
Agricultural Cooperative Service.....	2
Agricultural Marketing Service	2
Agricultural Research Service	3
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.....	3
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.....	4
Cooperative Extension System	4
Cooperative State Research Service	6
Economic Research Service.....	6
Farmers Home Administration	7
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation	8
Federal Grain Inspection Service	8
Food and Nutrition Service.....	9
Food Safety and Inspection Service.....	12
Foreign Agricultural Service	12
Forest Service.....	13
Human Nutrition Information Service	14
National Agricultural Library	15
Office of Advocacy and Enterprise.....	16
Office of Consumer Advisor.....	17
Office of Energy	17
Office of General Counsel.....	18
Office of Information.....	19
Office of Inspector General	20
Office of International Cooperation and Development.....	21
Office of Rural Development Policy	21
Office of Transportation	22
Packers and Stockyards Administration.....	22
Rural Electrification Administration.....	23
Soil Conservation Service.....	24
Statistical Reporting Service.....	25
World Agricultural Outlook Board	25
USDA Employment Policy	26
Non-USDA Sources	26
State and Local	27
Federally Sponsored Groups.....	28
State Extension Addresses	29



Introduction

All programs and services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are available to everyone, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, or handicap. Many USDA agencies provide special services designed especially to meet the particular needs of handicapped persons.

In February of 1983, USDA entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped to help expand services in support of handicapped rural residents. USDA's Extension Service is the lead agency for carrying out the intent of the Memorandum of Understanding.

The Extension Service is working with other USDA agencies to identify educational resources, training programs, accessible housing, employment opportunities, in-home work programs, and counseling and placement services, and to inform eligible persons of the availability of these services. Agencies are being urged to look at their regular programs and service responsibilities for areas in which rural handicapped persons could be better served or incorporated more easily as participants.

USDA agencies are being encouraged to work with governors' committees and other state and local groups on employment and other activities for handicapped persons, and with independent living centers on statewide informational educational programs.

Following are summaries of some of the general activities within the Department, plus information on special services that may be of particular interest to handicapped persons.



Agricultural Cooperative Service

The Agricultural Cooperative Service (ACS) provides research, management, and educational assistance to cooperatives to strengthen the economic position of farmers and other rural residents. ACS works directly with cooperative leaders and federal and state agencies to improve organization, leadership, and operation of cooperatives and to give guidance to further development.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
ACS, USDA
Room 3405, Auditors Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-8870



Agricultural Marketing Service

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) helps the private marketing system move food and other farm products from producer to consumer quickly and efficiently, with the greatest fairness to all. AMS conducts market news programs, develops quality grade standards, and provides voluntary grading services for meat, poultry, eggs, dairy products, fruits and vegetables, and cotton, tobacco, and livestock. The agency administers marketing regulatory programs, marketing agreements and orders, research and promotion programs, federal-state marketing improvement programs, and wholesale facilities research programs. AMS also purchases foods for distribution through USDA food assistance programs.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
AMS, USDA
Room 3071, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-5115



Agricultural Research Service

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) conducts research on the production of animals and plants; the protection of animals and plants from diseases; the use and improvement of soil, water, and air resources; the processing, storage, and safety of food; and human nutrition.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
ARS, USDA
Room 302-A, Administration Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-3656



Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) administers programs relating to production adjustment, conservation assistance, prices, farm income, and market stabilization. The agency makes loans and payments on commodities raised by participating farmers. Agency committees deal directly with farmers at both state and county levels.

ASCS county employees visit handicapped or hospitalized persons who are unable to go to the county office to get application forms and other program documents.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
ASCS, USDA
Room 3086, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-3467



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is responsible for regulatory and control programs to protect and improve animal and plant health for the benefit of the American people and their environment. In cooperation with state governments, APHIS administers federal laws and regulations pertaining to animal and plant health and quarantine, humane treatment of animals, and the control and eradication of pests and diseases.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
APHIS, USDA
Room 312-E, Administration Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-3668



Cooperative Extension System

The Cooperative Extension System extends practical education to people beyond the classroom in the areas of agriculture, home economics, natural resources, youth development, and community development. The Cooperative Extension System partnership consists of USDA's Extension Service as the federal partner, land-grant colleges and universities as the state partner, and county governments as the local partner.

- Most state Extension services have educational activities directed to disabled and handicapped people in rural areas. These activities are carried out in cooperation with a wide range of other agencies and organizations. Many are developed at the local level and are special efforts to expand or adapt traditional Extension programs to meet the special needs of handicapped persons.

- Several states, including Indiana, Texas, North Dakota, Ohio, and Kansas, have activities specifically designed to serve handicapped farmers—helping them to adapt existing farm equipment to their needs and to obtain other devices that can help them perform farm-related tasks. Purdue University's Department of Agricultural Engineering in Indiana has provided leadership in this area through its Breaking New Ground Project. Other states are actively involved in programs which address the needs of injured workers and their families.

- Extension home economists help handicapped homemakers with food and nutrition, special clothing needs, and homemaking skills. Services include providing Braille newsletters, designing special kitchens, training volunteers who care for the handicapped elderly, and conducting educational programs to help handicapped persons develop independent living skills.

- Extension youth programs center on mainstreaming handicapped individuals. Some 4-H youth projects for the handicapped include special olympics, therapeutic recreation, camping, and horseback riding. In addition, 4-H members provide volunteer services to handicapped youth and adults. Raising guide dogs for the blind is one way 4-H members contribute to the needs of handicapped persons.

- The telephone numbers and locations for local Cooperative Extension offices usually are listed in the county government section of the telephone directory. State Extension offices are located in land-grant colleges and universities. (Addresses are listed in this publication on pages 29 and 30).

Contact:

Office of the Administrator

ES, USDA

Room 340-A, Administration Building

Washington, DC 20250

Ph. (202) 447-3377



Cooperative State Research Service

The Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS) administers federal funds appropriated for agricultural and forestry research at state agricultural experiment stations, forestry schools, 1890 universities and Tuskegee Institute, and colleges of veterinary medicine. CSRS helps coordinate regional research and research planning on a regional and national basis. The Agency manages competitive and special research grants programs and maintains the Current Research Information System (CRIS) of state and federal research records for publicly supported agricultural and forestry research.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
CSRS, USDA
Room 305-A, Administration Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-4423



Economic Research Service

The Economic Research Service (ERS) conducts research in domestic and foreign agricultural economics. The Agency analyzes factors affecting agriculture, farm productivity, financing, use of resources and potentials of rural areas, and evaluates marketing potentials and development and marketing costs. ERS also studies U.S. trade in agricultural products and the role of agriculture in economic development of other nations. In addition, ERS issues situation and outlook reports, commodity projections, price spreads and analyses of U.S. farm commodity programs.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
ERS, USDA
Room 1226
1301 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005-4788
Ph. (202) 477-8104



Farmers Home Administration

The Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) provides credit for people in rural America who are unable to get credit elsewhere at reasonable rates and terms. The Agency also administers rural development programs which provide advisory and technical assistance to rural communities.

- FmHA credit (loan and grant) programs are available to handicapped persons without restriction if they are otherwise qualified.
- Loans are made and guaranteed to farm applicants, including handicapped persons, who will operate family-size farms for farm ownership and operating capital, and to assist farmers in recovery from natural disasters. Home ownership loans are made to individuals to build or renovate housing in eligible rural areas for the families' own use. Dwellings are designed to meet the needs of the family, including special design features for handicapped family members.
- FmHA also makes loans for constructing or renovating multifamily housing projects in eligible rural areas. Such projects include housing for families, senior citizens, and farm labor. In most cases, a minimum of 5 percent of all units in each project are designed specifically for handicapped persons.
- Loans are also made to local communities (public bodies or nonprofit groups) for new and improved rural water and waste disposal systems and for constructing essential community facilities, including health clinics, hospitals, fire and emergency services, community buildings, roads and streets, schools, and libraries. These facilities are constructed to be accessible to handicapped persons in accordance with applicable federal and state standards. Included are facilities constructed or renovated primarily for the use of handicapped persons, such as rehabilitation centers, community workshops or development centers, and group homes. Loan funds may also be used to remodel facilities for use by handicapped persons.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
FmHA, USDA
Room 5014, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-7967



Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) insures farmers against loss of crop investment due to natural disasters such as hail, fire, and drought.

Contact:

Office of the Manager
FCIC, USDA
Room 4096, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 477-6795



Federal Grain Inspection Service

The Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) is responsible for inspecting and weighing grain and related commodities, and for supervising official private and state grain inspection agencies. The agency also establishes U.S. grade standards for grain and related commodities.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
FGIS, USDA
Room 1091, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 382-0216



Food and Nutrition Service

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), in cooperation with state governments and local agencies, operates federal food assistance programs that make better diets available to school children and low-income people. These programs include food stamps; school lunch and other child-feeding programs; special food programs for pregnant women, new mothers and their infants, and young children; and the food distribution programs which provide commodities to children, to nutrition programs for the elderly, and to charitable institutions.

FNS is committed to making all programs accessible to handicapped persons and eliminating barriers to their participation.

- Through the Food Distribution Program, USDA purchases surplus foods from U.S. markets and distributes them to state agencies for use by eligible local agencies. Nutrition programs for the elderly include "Meals on Wheels," which provides hot meals to housebound elderly participants. On Indian reservations, handicapped or disabled persons may use proxies or authorized representatives.
- The Child Care Food Program helps child-care facilities and institutions serve nutritious meals and snacks to preschool and school-age children. Institutions providing day care for handicapped children are among those receiving this assistance.
- The Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides nutritious food supplements to pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, as well as to infants and children up to their fifth birthday. The program allows the use of proxies to pick up food vouchers or do WIC shopping. Food vouchers also may be mailed to participants who cannot visit WIC clinics without undue difficulty.

- Statistics indicate that 491,000 households participating in the Food Stamp Program in August of 1982 (6.6 percent of the total) contain aged, blind, or disabled members who receive payments under the Supplemental Security Income Program. Other individuals are considered disabled when considered for a job under the program's work registration provisions. Current program regulations contain a number of provisions designed to meet the unique requirements of these individuals who may have difficulty in attempting to get program benefits for themselves and their families:

- Disabled or handicapped persons may apply for food assistance by mail. Their household circumstances can be certified by a telephone interview or home visit or they may designate another person to go to the food stamp office to handle the necessary application, certification, and verification. Handicapped persons need not obtain photo identification cards which are required for most of the food stamp population. Handicapped individuals are not required to register for work under the program's work registration requirements.

- The eligibility and benefit structure of the program accommodates the special expenses of the disabled. When computing available income to determine program eligibility, households with a disabled or handicapped member may deduct any medical expenses in excess of \$35 per month (including such items as the cost of a seeing-eye dog). They are allowed to deduct all shelter costs in excess of the household's adjusted income, and may exclude from consideration as resources the value of vehicles necessary for the transportation of a disabled or handicapped member. Households containing an elderly or disabled member are required to meet only the program's net income eligibility standards. Other program households must meet both the net and gross income standards.

- Households with disabled members may be certified for a 1-year period, or longer in some cases. Such households may also apply for food stamp benefits at local Social Security offices at the same time they apply for SSI benefits.

- Food stamp households caring for a disabled person may deduct a portion of the costs for the care of the disabled individual when such care enables a household member to accept or continue employment, or to participate in training or education preparatory to employment.
- Elderly permanently disabled individuals who are unable to purchase and prepare meals as a household member may be considered a separate household, provided the income of the household in which they reside does not exceed 165 percent of the poverty line.
- Disabled or handicapped persons may have their coupon allotments mailed to them, or they may have an authorized representative obtain the allotment and use it to purchase food for the household. They may also use their food coupons to purchase meals from an FNS-authorized nonprofit meal delivery service if they are unable to prepare their own meals.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
FNS, USDA
Room 1107, Park Center
3101 Park Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22302
Ph. (703) 756-3062



Food Safety and Inspection Service

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) administers federal meat and poultry inspection programs to assure safety, wholesomeness, and truthful labeling of these products.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
FSIS, USDA
Room 332-E, Administration Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-7025



Foreign Agricultural Service

The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is responsible for expanding the export of U.S. agricultural commodities. This mission is accomplished by programs designed to eliminate barriers to trade and to develop overseas markets, a system to provide foreign market information, and an attaché service which represents U.S. agriculture in the major producing and consuming countries of the world. FAS also administers agricultural import regulations and USDA's responsibility for P.L. 480, CCC export credit programs, and the reporting of export sales.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
FAS, USDA
Room 5071, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-3935



Forest Service

The Forest Service (FS) is responsible for federal leadership in forestry, including management of the National Forest system. Permits may be obtained by individuals or organizations to conduct business or special events on National Forest lands. The Forest Service also administers special employment and training activities for youth and senior citizens. The volunteer program in the national forests contributes directly to the opportunities available to the visitors or users.

- More than 600 Forest Service campgrounds and picnic areas throughout the Nation include various types of facilities for the handicapped. These facilities range from curb ramps and modified restrooms to specially designed nature trails and fishing docks. To provide maximum access, the Forest Service is removing architectural barriers at recreation sites, where feasible.
- Forest Service buildings nationwide are being built or remodeled for use by handicapped visitors and workers.

Contact:

Office of the Chief
Forest Service, USDA
Room 3008, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-6661



Human Nutrition Information Service

The Human Nutrition Information Service (HNIS) performs applied research in food and nutrition, and develops and communicates—to consumers and to professionals who advise them—information needed to make informed food choices. The agency develops and provides information on the nutritive value of foods, the nutritional adequacy of diets and food supplies, and the proper selection and handling of foods.

Much of this information is appropriate for use by handicapped persons. For example:

- Information on the nutritive value of foods is used to identify good sources of specific nutrients. Such information is basic to planning a good diet for anyone, but it is especially useful to handicapped persons whose physicians have prescribed diets that contain high levels of certain nutrients, such as calcium or protein.
- Guidance on controlling weight is of special help to handicapped persons in cases where reduced activity necessitates the selection of foods that have high nutrient-to-calorie ratios.
- Food money management guidance may be of special help to handicapped persons with limited resources.
- Recipes published by HNIS are easy to prepare and may be appropriate for use by some handicapped persons.
- The Nationwide Food Consumption Survey provides benchmark data on food consumption and dietary levels of the general population, which may be compared with similar data relating to handicapped persons obtained through state or university studies.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
HNIS, USDA
Room 360, Federal Building
Prince Georges Plaza
Hyattsville, MD 20782
Ph. (301) 436-7725



National Agricultural Library

The National Agricultural Library (NAL), using computer data bases, provides technical information on agricultural research and related subjects to scientists, educators, and farmers. The agency is coordinator and primary resource for a national network of state land-grant and field libraries, and serves as the U.S. center for an international agriculture information system.

Contact:

Office of the Director
NAL, USDA
Room 200
Beltsville, MD 20705
Ph. (301) 344-4248



Office of Advocacy and Enterprise

The Office of Advocacy and Enterprise (OAE) provides leadership, direction, and coordination for the Department's programs for civil rights, which include program delivery compliance, equal employment opportunity, small and disadvantaged business utilization, minority research and training.

The Office monitors employment practices and service delivery in all agencies, programs, and activities of the Department for nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, marital status, age and handicap, in accordance with its mission to enforce the regulations implementing:

- Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.
- The Equal Credit Opportunity Act.
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975.
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- Department of Justice Enforcement Guidelines, 28 CFR 50.3 and 42.

OAE also works closely with other offices to ensure the implementation of Sections 501, 502, and 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Contact:

Office of the Associate Director
Equal Opportunity, OAE, USDA
Room 2305, Auditors Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-5681



Office of Consumer Advisor

The Office of Consumer Advisor (OCA) is responsible for coordinating USDA actions on problems and issues of importance to consumers. OCA represents the Department in policy discussions related to consumer issues before Congress, on meetings with other departments and agencies, and in various public forums.

Contact:

Office of the Consumer Advisor

USDA

Room 232-W, Administration Building

Washington, DC 20250

Ph. (202) 382-9681



Office of Energy

The Office of Energy (OE) coordinates the Department's energy policy, including all issues dealing with agricultural energy use and agricultural impacts of energy development and use. The agency coordinates the energy activities of all USDA agencies and can identify information resource personnel in other agencies.

Contact:

Office of the Director

OE, USDA

Room 144-E, Administration Building

Washington, DC 20250

Ph. (202) 447-2634



Office of General Counsel

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) provides legal counsel and services to the Secretary and the Department's agencies.

Contact:

Office of the General Counsel
USDA
Room 2033, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 477-3351



Office of Information

The Office of Information (OI) plans, develops, and executes Departmental public information programs and coordinates USDA agency information activities pertaining to the following:

- Publications, both technical and popular, which present the results of research and information about USDA regulatory and service programs.
- Current information, which includes press, radio, and television materials, special public affairs programs and projects, and teleconferencing.
- Visuals, including exhibits, photographs, graphics, slide presentations, videotapes, and motion pictures.

OI serves as liaison for information requested by Congress and other branches of federal and state governments, as well as the general public, on farm and consumer-related programs. OI publishes the Yearbook of Agriculture, which contains a wide variety of articles on a single theme. These articles are prepared by researchers, specialists, and other authorities on agricultural subjects.

Contact:

Office of the Director
OI, GPA, USDA
Room 402-A, Administration Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-8005



Office of Inspector General

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducts and supervises audits and investigation relating to the Department's programs and operation. It provides leadership, coordination, and recommendations on policies for activities designed to prevent and detect fraud and abuse and to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in Departmental programs and operations.

OIG provides a toll-free Whistleblower Hotline ((800) 424-9121 or local (202) 472-1388) for reporting information concerning possible violations of USDA laws, rules, or regulations; mismanagement; gross waste of funds; abuse of authority; and substantial and specific danger to public health and safety. OIG keeps the Secretary and Congress fully informed of problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of Departmental programs and operations, and recommends actions designed to correct such problems and deficiencies.

Contact:

Office of the Inspector General

OIG, USDA

Room 247-E, Administration Building

Washington, DC 20250

Ph. (202) 447-8001



Office of International Cooperation and Development

The Office of International Cooperation and Development (OICD) coordinates USDA's international training and technical assistance programs. It sponsors international research projects and scientific and technical exchanges with other nations on topics of interest to U.S. farmers and agribusinesses. The Agency's work includes development planning and analysis in efforts to encourage private agribusinesses to get involved in development work overseas. OICD acts as USDA's liaison with international food and agriculture organizations.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
OICD, USDA
Room 3049, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-3157



Office of Rural Development Policy

The Office of Rural Development Policy (ORDP) provides leadership within the Executive Branch on nationwide rural development programs and formulates the national rural development strategy required under the Rural Development Policy Act of 1980. ORDP analyzes rural development issues and provides information to the President's Economic Policy Council, the Secretary's Policy and Coordination Council, the National Advisory Council on Rural Development, other Departmental committees and councils, and federal agencies.

Contact:

Office of the Director
ORDP, USDA
Room 5048, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 382-0044



Office of Transportation

The Office of Transportation (OT) is responsible for formulating agricultural transportation policy and promoting an efficient transportation system that improves farm income, expands exports, and meets the needs of rural America. OT has four major program areas: transportation system performance, rural transportation development, international transportation development, and physical distribution.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
OT, USDA
Room 1405, Auditors Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-3963



Packers and Stockyards Administration

The Packers and Stockyards Administration (P&SA) enforces the Packers and Stockyards Act, a fair trade law designed to maintain fair and open competition in the marketing of livestock, poultry, and meat.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
P&SA, USDA
Room 3039, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 477-7051



Rural Electrification Administration

The Rural Electrification Administration (REA) assists rural electric and telephone organizations in obtaining the financing required to provide electric power and telephone service on a continuing basis to rural areas and territories, and encourages borrowers to stimulate economic development in their areas. Financing may include a loan from REA, an REA guarantee of a loan made by others, or REA approval of security arrangements that permit a borrower to obtain financing from other lenders without a guarantee.

REA actively encourages programs and services by REA electric and telephone borrowers which benefit the handicapped.

- The Basic REA Civil Rights Development Program (a 5-point program for cooperative borrowers and a 4-point program for telephone companies) is a major part of REA's emphasis on equal opportunity. REA promotes this voluntary program as a part of effective management, unconnected to loan eligibility. The program includes ways to aid the physically impaired. More than 225 electric systems and 60 telephone systems have adopted the 4- or 5-point program.
- In March 1983, REA revised REA Form 266, Compliance Assurance, including "discrimination on the basis of handicap" as a prohibited practice.
- REA civil rights staff members periodically visit electric and telephone borrowers to emphasize the need for nondiscriminatory delivery of program services to handicapped patrons and for hiring the handicapped.
- REA staff discusses with borrowers the special needs, including special equipment, of the physically impaired person. They encourage all borrowers to adopt the basic REA Civil Rights Development Program, especially as it relates to handicapped consumers and employees.

Contact:

Public Information Office
REA, USDA
Room 4042, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph: (202) 382-1255



Soil Conservation Service

The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) administers a national soil and water conservation program in cooperation with land users, community planners, municipalities, and other individuals, groups, and units of government. Assistance is available directly to program participants or through locally organized conservation districts.

SCS activities include:

- Helping land users to install, maintain, and rehabilitate conservation systems.
- Collecting and disseminating information on water and wind erosion, conservation treatment needs, and practical land uses.
- Participating in cost-sharing that offers special assistance in installing selected conservation practices, reclaiming abandoned surface-mined coal land, and improving water quality.
- Conducting natural resource surveys.
- Working with youth groups, community organizations, local education agencies, and colleges and universities to incorporate environmental education in school curricula and to establish environmental education programs.

SCS ensures that all programs and activities are available to everyone on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Contact:

Office of the Chief
SCS, USDA
Room 5105, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-4525



Statistical Reporting Service

The Statistical Reporting Service (SRS) prepares official USDA data and estimates of domestic production, supply, prices, and other items necessary for orderly operations through monthly, annual, and other periodic reports to the public.

Contact:

Office of the Administrator
SRS, USDA
Room 4117, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-2707



World Agricultural Outlook Board

The World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) coordinates the Department's analysis and dissemination of information with respect to current developments affecting the outlook for domestic and international agriculture. WAOB chairs Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees and leads interdepartmental meteorological and remote sensing activities.

Contact:

Office of the Chairman
WAOB, USDA
Room 5143, South Building
Washington, DC 20250
Ph. (202) 447-6030



USDA Employment Policy

USDA is committed to a policy that ensures that every person will receive equal consideration in obtaining employment for which he or she qualifies, regardless of handicap. As part of the Department's affirmative action program, USDA agencies provide employment, training, and advancement opportunities for disabled and handicapped persons. Efforts are made to eliminate all barriers, architectural and attitudinal, which would limit these opportunities.

For information on local employment with USDA, contact the USDA agencies listed in the telephone directory to obtain the address of the nearest agency personnel office and the name of either the Selective Placement Coordinator or the Disabled Veterans Coordinator.



Non-USDA Sources

Many non-USDA agencies and groups offer programs or assistance for handicapped individuals. Here are a few suggested state and local sources and information on several federally sponsored groups:



State and Local

All states have:

- A Governor's Committee on Employ the Handicapped.
Offices are usually located in state capitals.
- Vocational rehabilitation programs.
Names vary by state; offices are usually located in state capitals and may be part of education or human resources offices.
- State employment or job services offices.
Offices are located in many communities.
- Some people with specific handicaps (blind, mentally retarded, etc.) may be served by independent state agencies.

To locate the above offices, check listings under State or County Government in the telephone directory.

In addition to the offices mentioned, many states have special education or other specific programs for handicapped persons.

Besides state or county government programs, special programs or services for handicapped individuals are provided by a number of private, civic, and non-profit organizations. Such groups as the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Lions Club, private companies, and church groups may have community programs.



Federally Sponsored Groups

- Clearinghouse on the Handicapped
Department of Education
Switzer Building, Room 3132
330 C. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20202
Ph. (202) 732-1241

Offers referrals to national organizations that supply information to and about handicapped persons.

- National Rehabilitation Information Center
4407 Eighth Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017
Ph. (202) 635-5826
Toll Free Number 1-800-34NARIC

Supplies publications and audiovisual materials on rehabilitation and assists in locating information.

- President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped
1111 20th Street, NW
Room 636
Washington, DC 20036
Ph. (202) 653-5044

Serves an advocacy and public awareness role in fostering job opportunities for handicapped people; provides information primarily in the area of employment, and on architectural accessibility and education for handicapped youth.



State Extension Addresses

State Extension offices are located in the following land-grant colleges and universities. For information on programs for the handicapped in a particular state or territory, write to the Director/Administrator of the Extension Service at the listed address.

Alabama

Auburn University, Auburn 36849
Alabama A&M University, Normal 35762
Tuskegee University, Tuskegee 36088

Alaska

University of Alaska, Fairbanks 99701

American Samoa

American Samoa Community College,
Mapusaga Campus, P.O. Box 2609,
Pago Pago 96799

Arizona

University of Arizona, Tucson 85721

Arkansas

University of Arkansas, Little Rock 72203
University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff 71601

California

University of California, Berkeley 94720

Colorado

Colorado State University,
Fort Collins 80523

Connecticut

University of Connecticut, Storrs 06268

Delaware

University of Delaware, Newark 19711
Delaware State College, Dover 19901

District of Columbia

University of the District of Columbia,
Washington, DC 20008

Florida

University of Florida, Gainesville 32611
Florida A&M University, Tallahassee 32307

Georgia

University of Georgia, Athens 30602
The Fort Valley State College,
Fort Valley 31030

Guam

University of Guam, Agana 96910

Hawaii

University of Hawaii, Honolulu 96822

Idaho

University of Idaho, Moscow 83843

Illinois

University of Illinois, Urbana 61801

Indiana

Purdue University, West Lafayette 47907

Iowa

Iowa State University, Ames 50011

Kansas

Kansas State University, Manhattan 66506

Kentucky

University of Kentucky, Lexington 40506
Kentucky State University,
Frankfort 40601

Louisiana

Louisiana State University,
Baton Rouge 70803
Southern University and A&M College,
Baton Rouge 70813

Maine

University of Maine, Orono 04473

Maryland

University of Maryland,
College Park 20742
University of Maryland, Eastern Shore,
Princess Anne 21853

Massachusetts

University of Massachusetts,
Amherst 01003

Michigan

Michigan State University,
East Lansing 48824

Micronesia

College of Micronesia, Ponape,
E.C.I. 96941

Minnesota

University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108

Mississippi

Mississippi State University,
Mississippi State 39762
Alcorn State University, Lorman 39096

Missouri

University of Missouri, Columbia 65211
Lincoln University, Jefferson City 65101

Montana

Montana State University, Bozeman 59715

Nebraska

University of Nebraska, Lincoln 68583

Nevada

University of Nevada, Reno 89557

New Hampshire

University of New Hampshire,
Durham 03824

New Jersey

Rutgers State University,
New Brunswick 08903

New Mexico

New Mexico State University,
Las Cruces 88003

New York

New York State College of Agriculture,
Ithaca 14853

North Carolina

North Carolina State University,
Raleigh 27650
North Carolina A&T State University,
Greensboro 27420

North Dakota

North Dakota State University,
Fargo 58105

Ohio

The Ohio State University,
Columbus 43210

Oklahoma

Oklahoma State University,
Stillwater 74078
Langston University, Langston 73050

Oregon

Oregon State University, Corvallis 97331

Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania State University,
University Park 16802

Puerto Rico

University of Puerto Rico,
Mayaguez 00708

Rhode Island

University of Rhode Island,
Kingston 02881

South Carolina

Clemson University, Clemson 29631
South Carolina State College,
Orangeburg 29115

South Dakota

South Dakota State University,
Brookings 57006

Tennessee

University of Tennessee, Knoxville 37901
Tennessee State University,
Nashville 37203

Texas

Texas A&M University,
College Station 77843
Prairie View A&M University,
Prairie View 77445

Utah

Utah State University, Logan 84321

Vermont

University of Vermont, Burlington 05401

Virginia

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State
University, Blacksburg 24061
Virginia State University, Petersburg 23803

Virgin Islands

College of the Virgin Islands,
St. Croix 00850

Washington

Washington State University,
Pullman 99164

West Virginia

West Virginia University,
Morgantown 26506

Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin, Madison 53706

Wyoming

University of Wyoming, Laramie 82070

